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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 063798
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 SP-02 EB-08 EPA-01
COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00
L-03 /050 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EGY:DEZWEIFEL:SEB
APPROVED BY NEA:NAVELIOTES
NEA/EGY:DONEWBERRY
NEA/IAI:GDKULICK
----------092190 132029Z /43
O 132011Z MAR 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 063798

FOR CHARGE VIETS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US

SUBJECT: AMOCO INCIDENT

REF: A) TEL AVIV 3309; B) CAIRO 7976

1. THIS CABLE WILL CONFIRM POINTS MADE DURING VIETS-VELIOTES TELEPHONE CONVERSATION MARCH 13.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS DISCUSSED SUGGESTION CONTAINED IN STATE 63387 WITH VICE PRESIDENT BOSWELL OF AMOCO. BOSWELL'S REACTION WAS EQUALLY NEGATIVE TO THAT OF GOE SET FORTH IN REFTEL B. ACCORDINGLY, UNLESS EMBASSY TEL AVIV ALREADY HAS INFORMED GOI OF THAT INITIATIVE, PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DOING SO. IF GOI ALREADY TOLD THAT WE WOULD

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TAKE THIS APPROACH WITH GOE AND AMOCO, YOU SHOULD TELL ISRAELIS THAT SUGGESTION WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE TO EITHER EGYPTIANS OR AMOCO.

3. DURING YOUR NEXT DISCUSSION WITH GOI ON THIS ISSUE, YOU SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

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--WEARE INFORMED THAT DRILLING IS IN PROGRESS. WE HOPE
THIS INDICATES

THAT ISSUE IS ON THE WAY TO SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION.

--IF THIS IS NOT THE CASE AND GOI STILL INTENT ON FURTHER
ACTION AIMED AT BRINGING ABOUT WITHDRAWAL OF AMOCO
BUOYS, WE HOPE THAT ISRAELIS WILL TAKE INTO FULL CONSIDERA-
TION FACT THAT AMOCO, THROUGH USG, HAD RELAYED INFORMATION
CONCERNING PLANS. COMPANY FURTHER TRYING TO AVOID
CONFRONTATION BY SHORTENING CHAINS TO MAXIMUM EXTENT
POSSIBLE (CAIRO 8027).

--BASED ON CONSENSUS THAT DRILLING RIG PER SE IS IN
WATERS UNDER UNCONTESTED EGYPTIAN CONTROL, WE WOULD HOPE
THAT GOI WOULD ADPOT FLEXIABLE POSITIONS SHOULD THERE CONTIN-
UE TO BE DISPUTE OVER PRECOSE LOCATION OF MARKER BUOYS
AND/OR ANCHORS.

--SOME PRESS INTEREST HAS DEVELOPED IN US. WE WISH TO
DOWNPLAY PUBLIC ATTENTION AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, ESPECIALLY
SINCE USG DISAGREES OFFICIALLY WITH CONCEPT OF GOI
"MEDIAN LINE" AND JURISDICTION IN AREA. WE DO NOT
WANT PUBLIC CONTROVERSY OVER THIS ISSUE.

--FINALLY, YOU SHOULD NOTE THAT THERE ARE SOME FORTY
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AMERICANS ON BOARD RIG 511.USG, IN ADDITION PR I S-
LY EXPLAINED POLITICAL AND LEGAL RATIONALE CONCERNED
THAT NOTHING BE DONE WHICH MIGHT ENDANGER SAFETY OF
US CITIZENS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFSHORE DRILLING, TERRITORIAL WATERS, PETROLEUM
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780375/aaaacleh.tel
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Litigation History:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3350310
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMOCO INCIDENT
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, IS, EG, US, AMOCO
To: TEL AVIV
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/504074c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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